

Madam Speaker, we cannot deny Haiti this opportunity to help stabilize its economy, recover from devastating natural disasters, rebuild its political and economic institutions, and provide a future of hope for Haiti's people.

I ask my colleagues to support this concurrent resolution and urge the House Leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT AND FOOD SAFETY INFORMATION ACT OF 2009

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am proud to reintroduce the Consumer Product and Food Safety Information Act.

This very simple bill creates a comprehensive information process to notify American consumers about food and product recalls. It seems that practically every week there is another product or food recall, but there's no single, comprehensive, federal resource to relay this information to consumers. As a result, many Americans are rightfully concerned and confused about what products might endanger the lives of their loved ones.

In the 110th Congress after a steady stream of countless food and product recalls, I co-chaired a Ways and Means joint Oversight and Trade subcommittee hearing on Import Safety. In that hearing, we learned that there is no collective federal public information process to inform Americans about food and product safety recalls. Instead there is an expectation that press releases and Internet announcements with moderate outreach efforts are sufficient communication tools.

This legislation is not about creating a new bureaucracy; the sole purpose is to establish a process. We must provide consumers with single resources—through various media phone, print, Internet, and radio—to learn exactly what toys are safe for their children, what food is safe to eat, what beds are safe to sleep in, and what medicines won't compromise their health. The Consumer Product and Food Safety Information Act of 2009 presents a clear plan to relay accurate and timely information to all consumers—regardless of age, income or location.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this basic, common-sense legislation. I want to make sure that my constituents—parents, senior citizens, those who have access to the Internet, those who prefer newspapers and libraries—are provided with universal, consistent information about what foods and products are harmful to themselves and their loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise to state that I was on an official leave of absence from the U.S. House of Representatives on account

of the funeral of a close personal friend and unable to vote on rollcall votes Nos. 548 through 572. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Nos. 548 through 551, 554 through 569, and 572, and "nay" on Nos. 552, 553, 570, and 571.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Republican Conference standards on earmarks, I submit the following information regarding a project included at my request in H.R. 3183, the Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Congressman JIM JORDAN (OH-04) Bill: H.R. 3183

Account: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 205 (Flood Damage Reduction)

Requesting entity: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District (1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207)

Description: The City of Findlay, Ohio, saw three of its worst floods in history in just a 13-month period in 2007–08. These floods devastated the city, causing significant damage to the downtown business district and displacing hundreds of residents. The Army Corps of Engineers has worked diligently since the January 2007 flood toward developing flood damage reduction plans. I requested \$248,000 to complete the Section 205 feasibility study and begin design and implementation work.

I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

NORTH BEND

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the City North Bend, Washington, for reaching its centennial year in 2009.

North Bend, located in the north end of the Eighth District of Washington State, is beautifully situated near the entrance of the Cascade Mountains with majestic Mount Si providing a stunning backdrop. Residents and tourists of all ages enjoy the many outdoor activities this natural, rural setting has to offer, including skiing, hiking, camping, hunting, fishing and swimming. The residents of North Bend are truly caring people who will continue to lead North Bend in protecting their unique rural setting while encouraging residential and business development. I commend Mayor Ken Hearing for his leadership of this town of 4,700.

The Eighth District is a more vibrant area because of North Bend and I rise today to commend the citizens past and present on their success in reaching this milestone.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday July 15, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3183) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I join my colleagues in opposition to the Flake Amendment to H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2010.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I believe it is our duty to work with our colleagues across the aisle in crafting a bill that helps our country in times of economic peril. In a political climate where energy sources and technology have become a central focal point, we must do everything in our power to do what is in the best interest of the constituents in our respective districts, and indeed, the nation as well. This amendment, however, is not in the best interest of our constituents.

The Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research (CPBR), Inc., which is based in the State of Georgia, is an organization which specializes in the transfer of plant biotechnologies from the research laboratory to the marketplace, and in the process, provides expanded economic opportunities through university research. CPBR's research programs and activities are undertaken cooperatively with major colleges and universities around the nation, including Albany State University, which is located in my Congressional district.

In its short history, the CPBR has produced over 2.5 U.S. Patents with every \$1 million dollars of federal funding provided. Through CPBR, every federal dollar is matched at a rate of 130% with non-federal funds. Additionally, the organization has a commercialization rate on successful projects which is over 210% higher than what universities get on their own.

The amendment offered by Congressman FLAKE frankly represents a gross lack of judgment, particularly given the enormous benefits we are continuing to gain as a result of the CPBR's research activities and tangible results being put in practice.

The CPBR has successfully worked with a number of historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) through its HBCU and Minority Institutions Research Fellowship Program. This program provides peer reviewed projects at these colleges and universities which, has in turn, sparked development and growth between the faculty and students.

This also broadens its interaction with its private sector partners, who work closely with the CPBR and its researchers, to carry out the transfer research and technology into the production of new and improved agricultural and manufacturing processes and products. Keep in mind, these are new products which were created and developed by students and researchers at Universities around the country.

These industrial innovations create thousands of new jobs and strengthen our national